INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE NEWS

NIH/OBA has published proposed revisions to Appendix B (Classification of Human Etiologic Agents) of the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules. (http://oba.od.nih.gov/oba/rac/Guidelines/NIH_Guidelines.htm) The proposed Action is to specify the Risk Group (RG) classification for several common attenuated strains of bacteria and viruses that are frequently used in recombinant DNA research. OBA is also adding several viruses not previously listed in Appendix B.

The NIH Guidelines provide guidance to investigators and the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) for setting containment for recombinant DNA research. The RG of the agent often establishes the minimum containment level required for experiments subject to the NIH Guidelines. The entire Federal Register announcement can be found at http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-07-25/html/2011-18726.htm (Please cut and paste the url into your browser address window.)

The public is encouraged to submit written comments on this minor action. Comments may be submitted to the OBA in paper or electronic form. The NIH will consider all comments submitted by September 9, 2011.

Changes that may be of interest to UCD investigators: Appendix B-II-D (RG2 Viruses)

The following will be added to Appendix B-II-D:
- Alphaviruses (Togaviruses)-- Adding Chikungunya vaccine strain 181/25.
- Arenaviruses--Adding Junin virus candid 1 vaccine strain.
- Flaviviruses (Togaviruses)-- Adding Japanese encephalitis virus strain SA 14-14-2.
- Rhabdoviruses-- Vesicular stomatitis virus-Adding laboratory adapted strains VSV-New Jersey serotype strains (e.g. Ogden, Hazelhurst).


OFFICE OF REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

HIPAA Compliance

Starting July 1, 2011, HIPAA training will be required annually for all Anschutz Medical Campus staff and HIPAA designated departments on the downtown campus. The training may be completed at any time throughout the fiscal year, as long as it is completed by June 30, 2012. HIPAA training can be accessed through your portal. There will be an opt-out process for departments/individuals who do not come into contact with Protected Health Information (PHI) and who do not want to take the training. Any questions, please contact the Office of Regulatory Compliance at 303-724-1010. Thanks!

Dr. T’s CORNER

Once again, I am happy to announce that our quarterly sentinel screening was completed this month for both RC1 and R2 Vivarium and the results were NEGATIVE for all excluded rodent pathogens. I want to thank everyone from the research staff to OLAR staff to the PI’s for their continued diligence in keeping our animal facilities clean.

During this time, we also tested 100% of the room in R2 that was positive for pinworm in the Spring. This room completed a 9 week course of Fenbendazole feed and then a 4 week rest period (the pre-patent period for the pinworm). This 100% testing was found to be NEGATIVE for all evidence of pinworms. Therefore, we will be loosening some of the quarantine requirements for this room, but will continue with enhanced surveillance by performing testing in 4 and 8 more weeks. If we continue to find no evidence of pinworms after testing 8 weeks from now, we will release this room from enhanced monitoring.

We continue to detect Mouse Norovirus (MNV) at about a 50% incidence throughout our colonies. Please note that this virus is currently NOT excluded from our colonies and is generally not excluded from most animal facilities nationwide. Therefore, these results were expected. At this point, we will not be taking any measures to eliminate this agent from our colonies, but will continue to monitor the incidence of this agent in our colony, as well as the literature to determine if there are any reasons to be concerned about its presence in the future.

While it is nice to continue to heap praise on everyone involved with our animal facilities, we must continue to be diligent in following ALL the rules we have put in place to maintain a “clean” animal facility. Any step backward could cause problems in the future. I would like to thank all of you for your continued help and assistance with this issue. Keep up the good work!

OFFICE OF REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

ANNOUNCING……

InfoEd 2011 Conflict Of Interest Disclosure Collection

The 2011 Conflict of Interest Disclosure collection period will commence on Thursday, September 1, 2011. You can access the disclosure form at https://era.cu.edu. Detailed instructions for completion of your disclosure can be found on the Office of Regulatory Compliance-Conflict of Interest website at (cut and paste the url into your browser address window): http://ucliferanchise.edu/academics/research/AboutUs/regcomp/conflictofinterest/Pages/default.aspx
RESEARCH CORNER

Chris Manuel, DVM, PhD for completing his board certification in Laboratory Animal Medicine and joining this year’s new Diplomates of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM). Dr. Manuel is a clinical veterinarian in the Office of Laboratory Animal Resources and is devoted full time (100%) to this institution’s animal care and use program and has specific responsibilities for clinical, diagnostic, and pathology support.

Chris received his B.S. in Microbiology in 1999 and Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine in 2004, both from North Carolina State University. He then did a Clinical and Surgical Internship at Florida Veterinary Specialists and Cancer Treatment Center in Tampa, FL followed by a Residency in Laboratory Animal Medicine at the Research Animal Diagnostics Laboratory (RADIL) at the University of Missouri. During his Residency, he also conducted a Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship at the University of Missouri in conjunction with the Harry S Truman Memorial VA Hospital in Columbia, MO. He completed his PhD in Veterinary Pathobiology in 2010. He joined UC Denver in September of 2010.

Chris’s research work while in Missouri was performed in the VA Biomedical Imaging Center utilizing micro-CT/SPECT, micro-PET, and micro-MRI for the development and characterization of novel radiopharmaceuticals. His work focused on the utilization of the Bombesin receptor subtype 2 (BB2r) in preclinical models of human focal and metastatic prostate cancer. The BB2 receptor has been demonstrated to be aberrantly expressed in approximately 80% of human prostate cancer cases evaluated. The bombesin (BBN) peptide and its analogs have demonstrated high binding affinity to the BB2 receptor, and when connected to a gamma or beta emitting radioisotope and injected intravenously, opens the door for molecular targeted imaging of systemic cancer lesions and receptor targeted radiotherapy. The goals of his work were based in two areas of radiopharmaceutical development using radiolabeled bombesin: 1) demonstrate the diagnostic potential of in-111 conjugated bombesin as a molecular targeting agent in a preclinical model of systemic prostate cancer and 2) develop a therapeutic protocol for utilization of Lu-177 conjugated bombesin in conjunction with currently approved FDA chemotherapeutics in preclinical models of focal bone metastasis and metastatic prostate cancer. In addition, Chris also performed rodent infectious disease research at the Research Animal Diagnostic Laboratory (RADIL) on the recently discovered Murine Norovirus (MNV). Work performed for this project characterized the sentinel detection and transmission properties of this virus, aiding in diagnostic detection.

COLORADO CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE (CCTSI)

The Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI) is proud to announce the annual CCTSI Pilot Grants Program Request for Applications and the Novel Clinical and Translational Methods Development Program RFA. This Award program consists of the 1) CO-Pilot Awards for Clinical and Translational Research which now include potential product development funding from the Technology Transfer Office and Translational Neuroscience Awards funded by the new Center for NeuroScience (CNS); 2) Child and Maternal Health Pilot Awards; 3) Community Engagement Pilot Awards for encouraging Community-Academic Partnerships; and 4) Novel Clinical and Translational Methods Development Awards. These pilot grants will provide more than $1,000,000 of funds for translational research and methods development.

You can obtain more information about CCTSI and this funding opportunity by visiting http://cctsi.ucdenver.edu/Funding. If you have specific questions regarding the three pilot programs please contact the point people listed below. For other questions, feel free to contact the CCTSI office at 720-848-7100.

- For questions regarding the CO-Pilot Awards for Clinical and Translational Research contact Sarah Stallings at 720-848-5519 or sarah.stallings@ucdenver.edu
- For questions regarding the Child and Maternal Health Pilot Awards contact Bonnie Savone at 303-724-1602 or bonnie.savone@ucdenver.edu
- For questions regarding the Community Engagement Pilot Awards for encouraging Community-Academic Partnerships contact Montelle Tamez at 303-724-5736 or montelle.tamez@ucdenver.edu
- For questions regarding the Novel Clinical and Translational Methods Development Grants contact Claudia Diaz-Byrd at 303-724-4419 or claudia.diaz-byrd@ucdenver.edu

The link to the RFAs is: (http://cctsi.ucdenver.edu/Funding/Pages/default.aspx)

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY (EHS)

In response to increasing regulatory oversight and to improve the safety of the University of Colorado Denver (UC Denver) community, the Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) and the Office of the Vice Chancellor of Research have developed new Laboratory Safety training that is available through Skillport. The training will identify basic laboratory hazards, safety controls, and incident response and reporting. Any employee is welcome and encouraged to take the Lab Safety training. Individuals new to the institution are required to take the training if they will work in a laboratory setting. Current or prior UC Denver employees who are new to UC Denver laboratory work are also required to take this training. Lab Safety training for new lab workers must be completed within 30 days of the hire date (or date of transfer or reassignment within UC Denver where new duties involve work in a laboratory). Employees hired as of August 2011 fall under this requirement.

If you have questions regarding this requirement, please contact EHS at 303-724-0345. For information on how to access the training, visit the EHS Skillport training webpage: http://ucdenver.edu/academics/research/AboutUs/health-safety/training/Pages/skillsoft.aspx (Please cut and paste the url into your browser address window.)